February 7, 1750-1. THE Numb. 6.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

With the freſheſt Advices, Foreign and Domeſtic.

Account of the remarkable Proceedings in Law and Equity between William Barneſley, *Eſq; Plaintiff, and* Manſel Powell, *Eſq; and others Defendants, before the Lord Chancellor, on the 18th of* July 1749.

THE Plaintiff is only Son of William Barneſley, Eſq; late ſenior Bencher of the Inner Temple. He marrying at London a young Gentlewoman of ſmall Fortune, his Father was ſo greatly incenſed, that he would not ſuffer him to live in his Houſe, or with his Wife for many Years, but boarded him at Farm Houſes near his Seat, at Eardiſley Park, Herefordſhire; made him a very inconſiderable Allowance, and conceived a Deſign to diſinherit him.

The old Gentleman, who was worth more than 100,000 l. having ſhewn ſuch Diſpleaſure againſt his Son, the Defendant Mr. Powell an Attorney, and one Samuel Barneſley a Door-keeper at the Treaſury, who was called Couſin, and who had tranſacted ſome trivial Affairs for the old Gentleman in London, were very aſſiduous to gain his good Will, and ſupplant the Son, who was too weak and inconſiderate to attempt the Recovery of his Father's Affection.

In May 1735, old Barneſley employed a Scrivener in the Temple, to copy a Will drawn by himſelf, in which he had left Blanks for the Names of the Perſons on whom he deſigned to entail his Fortune. This Copy he carried with him into Herefordſhire, from whence he never returned to London. By this Will (the Phraſeology, and Matter of which is moſt remarkably peculiar) after reciting the Cauſe of his Diſpleaſure againſt his Son, he leaves him only 40 l. per Ann. for Life, and a certain Leaſehold Eſtate, if he ſhall fulfil the Conditions of his Father's Will, and ſurvive his Wife, ſhe leaving no Child: Then, and after ſome ſmall Legacies, he makes the Defendant Powell, and Samuel Barneſley, and Mr. Thomas Weale, Executors; but the Blanks were never filled up.

Powell, expecting that his Name was to fill up the ſaid Blanks, and perceiving that the old Gentleman declined very faſt, introduced his Siſter Mary Powell, as his Houſe-keeper, and Anthony Frere as Steward, that they might improve his Intereſt.

A little before this Time old Barneſley had employed one John Cartwright, a Quack Doctor in the Neighbourhood, to write for him, and had his Son taken into the Family as Plough-boy. Tho' the old Gentleman's Hand was difficult to be read, yet Cartwright, by conſtant Application, not only attained to read it with Eaſe, but to copy it ſo exactly as that his Maſter could not diſcern the Difference. In this Capacity Cartwright continued till near the Time of Mr. Barneſley's Death, ſometimes approved, and ſometimes forbidden the Houſe, and once by his expreſs Order turn'd out as a Rogue and Raſcal not fit to be truſted.

In the Year 1736 Mr. Barneſley had two Strokes of the Palſey, which brought upon him a great Trembling, ſo much affected his Speech as that he could ſcarce be underſtood, and ſo much impair'd his Memory, as that he did not know his old Workmen, and was unable to write even a Receipt intelligibly; as appears by an Entry in his Day-book.

In the laſt Week of March, Mr. Powell came in Hopes to ſee the Will executed in his Favour; but the old Gentleman put it off, deſiring Mr. Powell to call as he returned from Brecon Aſſizes, and then he would execute his Will; and Parſon Bennet, and Collins, his Tennant, ſhould be Witneſſes; but in Powell's Abſence another Stroke of the Palſey rendered him incapable of executing the Will, tho' it lay ready on his Deſk; Powell hearing this Accident haſted back, and offered a Phyſician 1000 l. if he could make the old Gentleman ſenſible enough to execute his Will, but he died within 5 Hours. Powell then aſked Cartwright if he knew of any Will; to which he reply'd, he knew of none; but believed there was one in Samuel Barneſley's Hands; and next Morning young Barneſley, Powell, Weale, and Frere, made a ſtrict Search for a Will, but found none. Cartwright alſo came to Elizabeth Jones his Couſin, a Servant in the Houſe, and aſked her if ſhe had ſeen or heard of a Will? She anſwer'd ſhortly, No, no, I'm ſure there's no Will; 'tis all the Squire's. Upon this Cartwright ſaid, he would write to Samuel Barneſley, to let him know there was no Will in the Country, and enquire if there was any in London: But no Will being produced after many Enquiries, and Application to all the Friends of the deceaſed, Adminiſtration was granted to young Mr. Barneſley.

From this Time, there appears to have been a conſtant ſecret Correſpondence between Mr. Samuel Barneſley in London, and Cartwright. However it does not appear that either had as yet any Thoughts of a Will; and indeed Samuel Barneſley, willing to pay Court to the Heir, begun a Correſpondence with him by Letters; in one of which he ſays, "You may now, I think, reſt content from all Quarters, that there is no "Will executed in any Place."

Cartwright, upon Application, was taken into the young Gentleman's Service, and employed in making Bargains, drawing Writings, &c. and being indebted to old Mr. Barneſley in 17 l. by Mortgage on a ſmall Copyhold, he applied to his new Maſter for a Defeazance, by a Letter, in which he intimates his Intention to go to Sea, and ſays, "My Prayers "ſhall always be for your Health, to enjoy thoſe great Bleſſings which "God only has beſtowed upon you." And it is highly improbable that he had a Will in his Cuſtody (as was afterwards pretended) which diſinherited the Perſon to whom he writes, becauſe he would have had no Motive to expoſe his Diſtreſs to a Man who was not able to aſſiſt him, or to apply for a Defeazance to him who had no Power to grant it.

Powell having been concerned for the old Gentleman in many Purchaſes, Mortgages, &c. and having, on his Death, carried away Deeds and Papers, the young Gentleman filed a Bill in Chancery againſt him and his Siſter, for a Diſcovery of all Tranſactions between them and his Father, and for the Re-delivery of the Deeds.

But Powell thought it much eaſier to practiſe on his Weakneſs, than to anſwer this Bill; and in January 1737 he obtained an abſolute Releaſe from him, without any other Conſideration than of a General Releaſe to him of all Demands, and of a Will of his Father if any there was. After this Experiment no Fraud was thought too groſs to be attempted; and in February 1737, young Barneſley was induced to convey all his Eſtate to the Uſe of himſelf for Life, and afterwards to Powell, and his Heirs for ever; and as the Reaſon, it is recited in the Releaſe, that Barneſley the Father had an Intention to ſettle his Eſtate upon Powell, but was prevented by ſudden Sickneſs and Death. Powell not yet ſatisfied, prevailed on him, in 1738, to convey all his real and perſonal Eſtate to him and his Heirs, reſerving only 500 l. per Ann. to himſelf for Life; and in this Deed, it is recited that Barneſley the Father made, and duly executed, a Will, by which he deviſed all his Eſtates to Powell; but that the Will was for ſome Time concealed, and afterwards deſtroyed; and that it was not to the Satisfaction of Barneſley, the Son, to enjoy ſuch Eſtates for Life, contrary to the Intention of his Father. By Virtue of theſe Deeds, Powell took Poſſeſſion of all Eſtates, Deeds, &c. and brought his Family to the Manſion Houſe at Eardeſley Park, and ſoon afterwards he further prevailed upon the weak and inconſiderate Heir, to releaſe his 500 l. per Ann. in Conſideration of 100 l. per Ann. and his board.

Mrs. Barneſley, the young Gentleman's Wife, being now turned out of Doors, and reſenting the unprecedented Inſults which had been practiſed upon her Huſband, was about to apply for a Commiſſion of Lunacy; but was by an unexpected Incident, ſuddenly forced into a Compromiſe with Powell, who agreed, on certain Conditions, to pay her 200 l. per Ann. The Cauſe was thus: In May 1738, a Will was ſent up by Cartwright to S. Barneſley, witneſſed by Elizabeth Jones, and Cartwright himſelf, (who had both ſo often declared there was no Will) Cartwright's Son the Plough-boy being the third Witneſs. Cartwright in the Letter, which incloſed this Will, ſays "I hope you'll make no Publication of it 'til I "ſee you," and takes Notice of great Intimacy between Parſon Bennet, and Powell, and that all the Writings whereby young Barneſley gave away his Fortune, were executed in the Parſon's Houſe; and among others, the Letters of Attorney which enabled Powell to receive 12800 l. of old Barneſley's Money out of the Stocks. Immediately after, Cartwright and his Family, were lodged and maintain'd at S. Barneſley's Expence. This Will ſeems to be written by old Barneſley, but has not in it any of the Peculiarities of his Sentiments and Expreſſions, which were much leſs eaſy to be counterfeited than his Hand. It is dated July 1736, and by it 40 l. per Ann. is given to young Mr. Barneſley, 100 l. to Elizabeth Jones, one of the Witneſſes, 5 l. a Piece to his Servants, among whom was young Cartwright, another Witneſs; and, after ſome other Legacies, all the perſonal Eſtate to S. Barneſley; and to Powell, all his real Eſtates for Life, and afterwards to S. Barneſley and his Heirs. Among other Reaſons to think it ſpurious, one is, the Teſtator was ſcrupulouſly exact in Form and Ceremony; and ſo well knew that a Legatee was an improper Witneſs, that he ordered a Will to be executed afreſh, becauſe a Legatee had witneſſed it.

In June 1738, Samuel Barneſley filed a Bill in Chancery againſt Powell and Barneſley the Son, ſetting forth the Will, and praying that the Teſtimony of the Witneſſes might be perpetuated; Powell in Anſwer denies ſuch Will was made: S. Barneſley examined the two Cartwrights, (Elizabeth Jones being dead) to prove the Execution of the Will, and 13 Witneſſes to prove a Similitude between the Will and old Barneſley's Writing. On the contrary, Powell in the Name of the Heir examined 33 Witneſſes, among which were his Siſter, Michael Clarke, his Attorney, and Parſon Bennet, to ſhew the whole Will and Execution a Forgery. He alſo produced a Parchment, made and executed after Barneſley's Death, which was ſuppoſed to be his Hand, though Cartwright wrote it.

It being thought extraordinary that a Will of ſo much Conſequence ſhould, after ſo long Concealment, appear from ſuch Hands as Cartwright's, it was thought neceſſary to give ſome Account of it; and for that Purpoſe in 1739, an Allegation was exhibited in the prerogative Court, to anſwer theſe three Purpoſes. 1ſt. To ſhew an Intimacy of Friendſhip between old Barneſley and his Couſin Sam. 2d. How the Will came into Cartwright's Cuſtody. 3dly, That old Barneſley had a good Opinion of Cartwright. An Account of this Attempt appears in a Letter from Powell to Mr. Frere, to this Effect:

"There was Yeſterday a long Debate at Doctors Commons between W. Barneſley, and S. Barneſley, which ended to the Advantage of the former. S. Barneſley produced a Letter from old Barneſley to him dated 1735, ſuppoſed to be brought up by Cartwright, and it appeared to the Court that the Name John Cartwright in the ſaid Letter is a Forgery, and that the Date alſo is forged, which was deſigned to ſupport Characters.--- I doubt not to prove that the Direction alſo of the Letter is not of Mr. Barneſley's Hand Writing. They alſo produced a Paper dated March 18 before

before Mr. Barnesley's Death, wrote better than ever he could write for 30 Years before his Death, as if wrote by Barnesley himself; setting forth the Reason why he left such Will in Cartwright's Hands.---I hope we shall be able to detect so great a Piece of Villany. You know, after the Fits, Mr. Barnesley had, 3 Weeks before his Death, he could scarce write at all, so that the pretended Note of March 18 must be a Forgery. I desire by next Post you will send me the Christian Name of Beavan the Smith that lives at Eardisley.

In May 1742, while these Causes were depending, S. Barnesley got young Mr. Barnesley into his Custody, and drew him to sign an Agreement prepared by Arthur Jones, Barnesley's Council, in which he consented to give up his 500 l. per Ann. received under the Deed from Powell, and the 40 l. per Annum given him by the Will in Dispute, also to establish the Will, and to convey all his Right as Heir at Law to S. Barnesley and his Heirs, on Condition of 400 l. per Ann. which was not to be paid by S. Barnesley till he should receive sufficient out of the Estate. Upon this the Will was confirmed, and a Suit having been before commenced in the Exchequer at the Expence of S. Barnesley, collusively in the Name of John Barnesley, for an Annuity of 50 l. given him by this Will, and Mr. Barnesley, the Heir, continuing under Influence, and not requiring a Trial at Law, the Court in December, 1742, declared the Will to be well proved.

The Will being well established, Powell who had so often declared it a Forgery, and had examined 60 Witnesses to prove it to be so, took a Probat himself on the usual Oath, that he believed it to be the Will of the Testator, and from an Enemy became an intimate Friend of S. Barnesley, and they piously concurred in dividing the Spoil Accordingly,

A Reference being agreed to, Joshua Cox of Bartlets Buildings on Behalf of Powell, and Arthur Jones on Behalf of S. Barnesley, awarded that Powell should pay 3000 l. to S. Barnesley in Satisfaction of the 12,800 l. which he had received out of old Barnesley's personal Estate; and that all his real Estates should be settled on Powell for Life, and afterwards on S. Barnesley and his Heirs for ever; and that Powell should consent that the Will of 1736 should be established. Deeds were accordingly prepared by Jones, in which young Barnesley was made a Party, and by which all the old Gentleman's Estates were alienated by Fine and Recovery, the Annuity of 400 l. a Year dropped, and no Provision made for the young Gentleman.

Powell, not yet satisfied, refused to continue the Payment of 200 l. per Ann. to young Mr. Barnesley's Wife, and brought a Bill in Chancery to set the Agreement aside as inequitable; she therefore renewed the Attempt to procure a Commission of Lunacy against her Husband, and succeeded against the joint Endeavours of the Allies and their Agents.

At this Time it was thought necessary to substantiate the Will before the Jury; but old Cartwright having quarrelled with his Patron, and lost his Allowance, would not appear. However, Powell securing to him 40 l. a Year, while the Cause should depend, and 200 l. a Year, if it should go in his Favour, he again returned to his Duty. Powell having now so ingenious an Artist at his Devotion, it is scarce probable he would suffer him to lie idle. A Deed might be contrived that would keep him in Possession, altho' the Will should be set aside, and young Barnesley's Conveyances, by reason of his Lunacy, invalidated. Cartwright accordingly desired an Attorney to draw a Deed, by which an Estate should be convey'd to the Trustees, for the Use of the Granter for Life, Remainder to the Grantee in Fee Simple, or Fee Tail, and leave Blanks for the Parcels and Names; he also enquired what Stamps were used to Deeds supposed to be made 10 Years before. And soon after Powell produced to Sir H. Hawarth, a Deed to this Effect, all written in the Similitude of old Barnesley's Hand, and attested by Elizabeth Jones, and Mary Williams; by which old Barnesley conveys all his real Estate to John Greenley, Esq; and another Trustee, for the Use of himself for Life, and afterwards to Powell in Fee; he also produced another Will, dated 1735, not executed; but wrote in the Similitude of old Barnesley's Hand. This Deed was also produced to Mr. Greenley the Trustee, to introduced him to keep Courts; but Powell afterwards desired him to deny that he had seen it, or to say it was a Will and no Deed. He also produced to Sir Humphry an Affidavit of old Cartwright, sworn before Mr. Edwards, June 1744, setting forth that he had forged the Will of October 1736.

But Edward Bangham, who had been appointed Committee of the Estates of young Barnesley the Lunatic, filed his Bill to set aside the Deeds he had been persuaded to sign, and to try the Validity of the Will. Powell in his Answer denied that he ever had in his Custody such Affidavit or Deed. This Answer being deemed insufficient, he swears, in a Second, that he claimed under the Will. But at a Commission to examine Witnesses in the same Cause, he produced a Deed of Gift to him from old Barnesley by a Lease and Release dated 18th and 19th June 1735; and upon the Discovery of this new Title the Court ordered the Deeds to be left with the Clerk in Court, on Suspicion of Forgery. They were written on the Back of old Blank General Releases, probably that the Paper and Stamps might not be proved to be of a later Date than the Deed.

Old Cartwright having about this Time deserted his Wife, and kept a Mistress, she in Resentment made a Discovery of the Correspondence between her Husband and Powell; and accounts for the Origin of these Deeds. For she deposed, that Powell set him about making a Deed of Gift from old Barnesley, of all his Estate to him and his Heirs for ever, which her Husband undertook to do: That several Attorneys having been consulted about drawing this Deed, it was at length drawn by a Person in the County; that her Husband engrossed it in her Presence, in Imitation of old B.'s Hand; and about the same Time at Powell's Direction forged another Will; both which Writings he delivered to Powell; and that to prevent a Discovery that the Deed and Will were lately written, her Husband prepared Ink to make it appear of an ancient Date; and being at a Loss for a Family Seal, Powell sent several Writings sealed with Barnesley's Arms; and that he, by laying Oil on the Impression, made a Seal of Wax, with which he sealed the forged Deed; and that she gave the Copies of these Instruments wrote by her Husband in old Barnesley's Character to S. Barnesley, for which she received two Guineas.

When the Reader reflects on the different Dispositions of the same Estates made by all these Deeds and Wills, he will be able to judge, whether they are not the Productions of a Man contriving such Schemes as would be most beneficial for his Patrons, rather than the Acts of one depressed by Age, and in Expectation of an approaching Dissolution.

In short, so intricate were the several Causes of Dispute, and carried to so great a Length, that the Hearing took up seven Days before the Lord High Chancellor; but by his great Assiduity and Sagacity, he became so well acquainted with the Merits, that on Aug. 5, 1748, he pronounced that a Trial should be had in the King's Bench, by a special Jury of Gentlemen of Herefordshire, on the Validity of the Will of Oct. 1736, and the Writings of June 18 and 19, on which a Verdict having passed, grounded on Forgery, his Lordship on July 18, 1749; made a Decree, by which the Heir had Possession of his Father's Estates, and the Opposers were to pay Costs.---An authentick Account of all the Proceedings is published by W. Sandby in Fleet-street, London, in which it is observed, "That when the Friends of the Lunatic first undertook his Defence, they had all imaginable Discouragements; they were to engage with an artful Set of Men, who had been intrenching themselves, for many Years, in deep Plots and Contrivances, and were all bound by their Interest, and the Danger which hung over their Heads, to an inviolable Secrecy; so that for some Time few Discoveries could be made: At length many Circumstances appeared in their Favour; the Intricacy of the Case raised the Attention, and the Distresses of the Lunatick, moved the Humanity of the Court; Gentlemen of the highest Eminence in the Profession of the Law stood up in his Defence, who all exerted their utmost Abilities in his Favour, with a very uncommon Zeal, Generosity and Application: And his Cause was at last submitted to the Decision of a Judge, too discerning to be imposed upon by the most complicated Fraud.

Brussels, October 14. People here cannot conceive what Design the Ministers of France can have in their present Conduct towards the Government of the Republick of Holland, whom they treat with a Haughtiness, to which these Republicans, who have been almost always caressed, are not accustom'd; this Behaviour being so very different from those Declarations and Expressions of Affection and Friendship with which the French Ministers used to cajole them, and of which the Speeches, Discourses, and Memorials of Mess. Fenelon and de la Ville were full, even at the Moment the Troops of France entered upon the Territories of their High Mightinesses. The Marquis de Physieux made Use of the same Stile to Mess. Gilles and de Twickel before the Meeting of the Congress at Aix la Chapelle, and afterwards to the Plenipotentiaries of their High Mightinesses; nay, this was even continued to Mess. Marcellis and Larrey, Dutch Ministers sent into France to regulate the Tariff, and re-establish the Treaty of Commerce concluded in 1639; but all on a sudden these fair Speeches ceased, and they were talked to in a very different Tone. In short, the Conferences have been broke off, and these Ministers are returned into Holland without having concluded any Thing, leaving the Care and Management of this Affair to the Ambassador, the Baron de Berkenroode, who is not, it is thought, much more likely to succeed therein, than the other two, since it is remarkable that he begins to disrelish the Court, whither his Spouse has quite left off going, and the lovely Sister of that Lady is even returned to Holland. The late Ordinances of the Most Christian King too are executed in all the Ports with an uncommon Severity against the Dutch, who, according to the Tenor of all Treaties, ought to be treated as the most favoured Nation. We are greatly at a Loss to know what will be the Consequence of these Things, and wonder at the Republick not to have so much at Heart, as heretofore, the Affairs of Commerce, which have lately very much languished there.

L O N D O N.

October 15. It's assured, that on Thursday last, in the Night, a Courier arrived here from the Court of Spain, with an Account, that a Treaty, greatly to the Advantage of the Trade of this Kingdom, was signed there, between the respective Ministers, on Monday the 24th of last Month, and was gone to Hanover to be ratified; and that the South-Sea Company is taken Care of in this Treaty.

Extract of a Letter from a foreign Minister at Paris, October 4.

"The People here can by no Means digest the Continuance of the Taxes almost as burthensome as in Time of War; they cannot comprehend the Reason of it, and therefore, as it is usually the Case, they fall foul on the Ministry, and make heavy Complaints of their Conduct. If, say these Murmurers, they had made such a Peace as would have gained the King any thing from his glorious Conquests, or that it had given some Ease to the People, every Body would have been satisfied; but neither the one nor the other has been done, the Taxes still continue, Commerce languishes, particularly in the interior Part of the Kingdom, as all the Letters from the Provinces testify. There is a Mystery in all this. For my Part, I persist in believing that the principal Design of the Ministry is to put the naval Forces of the King in a respectable and formidable Situation upon a Supposition that if this can be brought about, his Majesty would gain more by it than if he had kept Part of the Low Countries; and, to effect it, considerable Sums must be employed, and consequently the Taxes continued."

To the PRINTER *of the* VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

SIR,

THE Prostitution of Poetry to mean and even vicious Purposes has long been the Complaint of the virtuous and pious Learn'd, and some have not only complain'd but have attempted to restore Poety to its ancient and natural Use; the Promotion of Piety and Virtue, and the Suppression of Vice and Immorality, and the Compositions upon these Principles, distinguish themselves in the Eyes of all judicious Persons, by their superiour Excellence above any Thing that has been written upon other Subjects, and make them appear mean and contemptible in the Comparison: The most admir'd Poems of the ancient or modern Heathen, tho' the Language is fine, the Descriptions beautiful, the Wit lively and surprizing, yet they abound with Flights that are unnatural and absurd when strictly consider'd---fill'd with Falshoods and monstrous Images which never has any Existence in Nature; but even these are the least to be complain'd of, as the Abuses of Poetry, many of these were wrote in dark Ages of the World, not enlightned by the Beams of Revelation, which may in a great Measure apologize for their Authors, who, if they had known better would have chosen more proper Subjects, or at least have handled them in a different Manner: but our modern Authors of vicious and immoral Poems, who dress up Vice in gay delusive Charms, which

fine Language, imagery Wit and Learning, make it appear agreeable and lovely, and conceal all its Deformity and ruinous Conſequences, artfully inflaming the Paſſions, and drawing them to its Intereſt which are naturally too much inclined to it; heavy is the Charge ſuch Authors have to anſwer, who, to the Byas they give the Mind againſt Virtue, owe the Reception their Works meet with in the World, and their being prefer'd to nobler Compoſitions; but upon divine Subjects the Mind has Room to exert itſelf to the utmoſt Bounds of its Capacity, without Hyperbole or going beyond Truth of its Subject; the Works of Creation and Providence are ſo infinite in their Variety, ſo magnificent and aſtoniſhing, ſo beautiful, ſo endearing in their Nature, and are ſo intereſting to every one of us, that they are the moſt proper, and are inexhauſtible Subjects for Poetry: Songs of Praiſe, and Love to the Deity, challenge the firſt Place in Poetry; in theſe the Works of Creation and Providence may be celebrated, with God's endearing Motives for ſuch Exertions of his Attributes.---Next, thoſe Pieces ſeem to claim Pre-eminence, which any way tend to the Promotion of Piety and Virtue, whether by Precept or illuſtrious Examples.---And laſtly, Satyr wherein Vice is expoſed in its natural Deformity and deſtructive Conſequences: I need not obſerve that all theſe ought to be handled judiciouſly, and in a maſterly Manner, ſince it is obvious to every Body, that bad Poetry debaſes its Subject and is not worth the Reading:---But every Friend to Piety and Virtue muſt obſerve with great Pleaſure, that the laudable Attempts of ſeveral worthy Perſons have lately, in a great Meaſure, reſtored Poetry to its true and original Uſe, as well as to its Reputation, by writing upon the Subjects I have been endeavouring to recommend, and in ſuch a Manner as to force the Admiration even of the Licencious and Vicious: Some have cenſured our *Engliſh* Poetry on Account of the Jingle of Words ſo much uſed in our Language more than in others, which it is conceiv'd muſt confine and cramp the Author, and ſome times oblige him to make Uſe of Words leſs apt for the Subject than others he is forced to reject; but if we examine the Works of ſome of our firſt Poets, particularly *Addiſon, Pope, Watts, &c.* we ſhall have little Reaſon to approve the Objection, they are as conciſe as one could wiſh, the Words are ſo proper for the Subject, and flow with ſuch an eaſy Freedom, that it ſeems as if they could not have expreſs'd themſelves ſo well in any other Words; perhaps, tho' Metre may admit of ſuch an Objection in any other Language, it does not in *Engliſh*, in which is a greater Variety of Words than in any other, ſo that if one Word which is proper for the Subject does not anſwer for the Metre, a ſynonimous Word may be found, which does.

The following Copy of Verſes were ſent me by a Friennd, who ſeems to have taken his Hint from a little Poem of Mr. *Pope*'s,---but has purſued the Thought a little further;---the Subject is noble, and nearly concerns us all; the Lines pleaſed me, which makes me willing to communicate them to the Public, and if you pleaſe, you may give them a Place in your Paper.

I.

ACTIVE Spark of heav'nly Fire
In a Clod of Earth confin'd,
Ever flutt'ring to aſpire
To the great paternal Mind;
Death ſoon will break this Priſon of Clay
And give thee Leave to ſpring away,
Then to thy native Regions go
There with thy Kindred-Flames to glow.

II.

Come thou ſhining Hour appear!
Happy Moment, O draw near!
'Tis come!——I feel the purple Stream
Stagnate; in miſty Darkneſs ſwim,
My dizzy Eyes confus'd and dim:
Bedew'd with cold and clammy Sweat,
The dancing Pulſes ceaſe to beat;
In vain I gaſp for Breath——
Strange! can this be Death?

III.

Hark! th' Angelic Envoy ſay,
" Siſter-Spirit, come away,
" Drop the Cumber of the Clay,
" And with thy Kindred Join!
Angels I come; conduct me on,
Inſtruct me in a World unknown,
In Miſteries Divine:
Inſtruct an unexperienced Stranger how,
To act as the Immortals do,
To think and ſpeak and act like you;
Teach me the Senſes to ſupply
To ſee without the Optics of an Eye;
The Muſic of your Songs to hear
Without the Organ of an Ear.

IV.

Yes! now, bleſt Angels! now I find
The Powers of an unfetter'd Mind,
How active, and how ſtrange!
O bliſsful Place! O happy State!
Welcome Felicity compleat!
Welcome amazing happy Change!

V.

And is this then Eternity?
And am I ſafely landed here?
No more to ſin, no more die,
No more to ſigh, or ſhed a Tear!
My Soul! can this be *I*?
I, who juſt now impriſon'd dwelt
In yonder World of Woe and Guilt!
Juſt now ſhudd'ring, trembling, ſighing!
Startl'd at the tho't of dying!
Am I indeed the ſame?
Or is it all a pleaſing Dream?——
The very ſame!——Ye heavenly Choirs,
Cherubic and Seraphic Fires!
Come aſſiſt my labouring Tongue,
Sound aloud the grateful Song.
Help a Stranger to expreſs
His Thanks, to rich unbounded Grace——
JESUS! the unbounded Grace was thine,
Who bled and languiſh'd on the Tree,
And bore infinite Pains for me,
To raiſe me thus to Joys Divine.
And do I ſee thy Face at laſt
O my ador'd incarnate GOD,
And has thy Love thy Servant plac'd,
In this thy ſhining bleſt Abode!
Enough!——Thy Bounty gives me more,
Than I could think, or wiſh before.

To the PRINTER, *&c.*

CREATURES, endued with Reaſon and Reflection, cannot lay out thoſe Faculties to more Advantage, in any Thing that regards this tranſitory Life, than by conſidering thoſe Privileges and Emoluments that more immediately, and in a peculiar Manner, have a Relation to their own Circumſtances and Station in the World, by a Sort of natural Connection. However neceſſary this may be, yet nothing is more common among Men than a total Neglect of ſuch an Application of the Powers of the Mind. Men are drawn aſide, and ſuffer the Mind's Eye to be charmed with foreign Views and Proſpects, that have nothing in them for Delight, but Expectation; while they neglect thoſe Fields and Woods, that with a little Application and Culture, would not only be pleaſing, but certainly more profitable.

The ſame Care, which ought to be employed in purſuing the beſt Means for improving our worldly Estates, ſhould be employed to acquire a ſuitable Behaviour in our Manners: If this were the Caſe, we ſhould certainly ſee that noiſome and pernicious Weed Envy, leſs flouriſhing and rank in the Minds of the Generality of Mankind; we ſhould not then find, by daily Obſervation, half the World ſqueeſing its deſtructive and blaſting Juice on the Characters of their Fellow-Creatures; and thoſe again reciprocally returning the Favour.——If we could cure ourſelves of this Jaundice of the Mind, we ſhould then find a ſecret Satisfaction in hearing of the good Succeſs and Happineſs of others; we ſhould not then find ourſelves mortifyed, as too frequently we are, with ſuch Succeſs and Happineſs; we ſhould not find the Misfortunes or Diſtreſſes of others exhilerate our Spirits, and give us unſpeakable Joy in relating thoſe Misfortunes; we ſhould not find ourſelves, inſtead of magnifying, or putting them into the beſt Point of View, giving a falſe Colour and Caſt to good Actions, and tarniſhing even the beſt; but we ſhould feel a conſummate Pleaſure in concealing the Defects and Weakneſs of others, chearfully beſtowing a Commendation on thoſe Acts that are laudable, and induſtriouſly aſſiſting in the Preſervation of every one's good Name, againſt Slander and Obloquy; and ſhould impartially examine Things, their Properties and Conſequences, in a juſt and true Light.

Human Felicity, a Thing greatly ſtruggled and contended for, is more eaſily obtained than is generally imagined. Nature has ſcattered it, with an impartial Hand, among the Group of Mankind; every one has it in his Power for ſtooping; a very Moderate Price! at a cheaper Rate nothing valuable can be had; but Men neglect to conſult about their proper Intereſt as they ought; they will not compare Things, and examine them, in order to obtain adequate Notions about them; they will not purſue thoſe Objects which are calculated for their Benefit, Happineſs, and Quiet, and which are ſuited more immediately with their Condition; and, ſurely, every Condition has ſuch Objects more peculiarly adabted to it.

Men, therefore, who tender their own Happineſs, ſhould be continually at Work, in comparing and ſeparating thoſe Objects which may contribute to its Promotion or Hindrance. As there are Privileges and Advantages agreeable to every human Condition, ſo nothing can prevent Perſons, in almoſt all Stations, from enjoying thoſe Advantages, ſo much as Sloth and Inconſiderateneſs; which obſtruct the reaping and gathering thoſe Fruits which bountiful Nature has ſown, or planted, in every Soil, for the Hand of the Provident and Induſtrious: Fruits that die away at the Breath of Envy, and conſequently never fall to the Lot of the Envious.

Am I young, and in the Spring of Life? It muſt then be allowed, that I have, what may be called, a Set of Advantages for that very Reaſon. It will, therefore, certainly augment my Happineſs to put them to fit Uſes and Employments; and this will be ſtill heightened and augmented, if I make apt Reflections on the Bleſſings of the Health and Strength I enjoy, and my Freedom from the natural Infirmities of old Age.

Am I got a Stage further? Arrived to the Maturity of Life, when my Reaſon and Diſcretion are come to Age? Then muſt I be a ſtrange Enemy to myſelf, if I do not remember and reflect on the many ſingular Bleſſings that are attendant on that moſt perfect State of my intellectual Faculties; in the Uſe and Exerciſe of which, I may entertain myſelf a thouſand, nay, numberleſs Ways; ſince Reaſon may be ſaid to be an Emanation from the Divine Power, and may in ſome Senſe be conſidered of an unlimitted Nature, notwithſtanding its Workings are abridged and confined in Man, in a Manner incomprehenſible, to difference him from ſuperior Beings.

Am I ſingle either by Choice or Compulſion? Let me, during that Condition, muſter up all the Felicity that does of Courſe naturally belong to it. Let me be aſſured, beyond all Doubt and Scruple, that I have my full Portion; and whenever a contrary Thought invades my Quiet, let me be convinced that I have not a right Senſe of my Circumſtances and State; that I do not ſee Things as they really are, but ſuffer my Imagination to cheat and deceive me, by allowing it to pervert my Underſtanding.

Am I married? Let me be careful in binding up the Pleaſures and Comforts of that State; let me endeavour continually to eſtabliſh a tender good-natural Senſe of the Duties and Advantages of it, remembering the Delicacy of the Union, and the Agreeableneſs of the Condition to Nature and Inclination, and the Comfort, Solace, and true Friendſhip that naturally belongs, or ought to belong to it.

Am I approaching, or arrived to old Age? Then let the Reflection of my having gone ſo far in a troubleſome and dangerous Journey, make me chearfully ſatisfied. Let me laugh at Sorrow, and collect Pleaſure from the Troubles of my paſt Life.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE Subſcriber being in Want of Oyſter Shells, will give at the Rate of Three Shillings per Hogſhead, for any Quantity that can be delivered at his Landing by the laſt of *March*.

Carter Burwell.

ALL Persons who have any Claim against the Estate of Mr. *Durham Hall*, late of the Borough of *Norfolk*, deceas'd, are forthwith desired to send in their Accounts, properly attested, to his Executors, *Robert Tucker* and *Christopher Perkins*, of the said Borough; and those that are indebted to the said Estate, are desired by them, to make speedy Payment.

A Tract of Land about 350 Acres, lying in *Lunenburg* County, belonging to the said Estate, will be sold at publick Sale, on *Wednesday* the 24th of *April* next, at Mr. *Henry Wetherburn*'s Door, in *Williamsburg*, where the particular Bounds, &c. of the said Land will then be produced.

Also to be freighted upon moderate Terms, to any of the *West India* Islands, or elsewhere, the Sloop *Harry*, belonging to the said Estate, now lying at *Norfolk*, ready to proceed upon any Voyage that may offer.

Robert Tucker,
Christopher Perkins, } Executors.

To be SOLD, for ready Money,

THE Estate of the late *Nathaniel Duckinfield*, Esq; of *London*, lying in *North-Carolina*, consisting of 1600 Acres of very valuable Land, on *Salmon* Creek, in *Bartie* County, within 3 Miles of the Governor's, the Front whereof is bounded by *Albemarle* Sound, 200 Acres of which are clear'd, with several new Brick Houses, and other considerable Improvements thereon. 800 Acres of Land about six Miles above the Mouth of *Maratuck* River, bounded by the said River and two Creeks, and called by the Name of *Warren* Neck, and in the same County, but without any Improvements. Six Tracts of Piney Lands in *Tyrell* County, containing about 3600 Acres, together with about twenty Negroes, all the Cattle, Hogs, and other Stock on the said Plantation, on *Salmon* Creek. Any Persons inclined to purchase, may know the Terms, and see a Draught of the Lands, by applying to us, in *Suffolk*.

Watson and *Cairnes*.
8

LAST Year a Box, directed to Mr. *William Button* in *Norfolk*, was imported either in the *George*, Capt. *Hubbard*, or in the *Queensbury*, Capt. *Dixon*: The Person with whom it may be will very much oblige us, in ordering it to Mr. *Francis Jerdone* in *York*, Mr. *Andrew Sprowll* in *Norfolk*, or to us in *Suffolk*, and either of these Gentlemen will pay the Charges.

Watson and *Cairnes*.
4

TO be SOLD at Public Vendue, to the highest Bidder, for ready Money, at *Edenton*, in the Province of *North-Carolina*, on the first *Tuesday* in *March* next, the *Spanish* Ship called the *Nymph*, burthen 400 Tons and upwards, not Five Years old, as she now lies safely moored in a Harbour near *Core* Banks, not far from *Occocock* Inlet, in the said Province, with all her Rigging, Guns, Sails, Stores, &c. An Inventory of which is to be seen until the Time of Sale, at the House of Messrs. *Watson* and *Cairnes*, Merchants, in *Suffolk*, and at Mr. *Andrew Sprowl*'s, Merchant, in *Norfolk*, *Virginia*.
4

NOTICE is hereby given, That on *Wednesday* the 27th Day of this Month a Vestry will be held at *Abington* Church in the County of *Gloucester*, in order to contract with Workmen, for building a new Church in the said Parish.

A Negroe Boy, belonging to the Subscriber, named *Charles*, about 4 Years old, full-eyed, battle-ham'd, and had on a striped *Virginia* Cloth Coat, was stolen from *Alice Bruces*, about eight Miles above *Williamsburg*, on the 24th of *January*, on his Way to *Hanover*, and is suppos'd to be carried into *Lunenburg*. Whoever gives me Information of the said Boy, so that I may get him safe, shall have Two Pistoles Reward, and if the Thief is convicted and brought to Justice, Five Pounds more, paid by

Henry Wythe.

Fredericksburg, *Jan.* 28, 1750-1.

HAVING been much afflicted with the Gout of late, I am determined to leave off my Business and Practice; and having lately imported from *London*, a large Assortment of choice Medicines, I design to dispose of them, with the Contents of my Shop, consisting of fresh portable Medicines, all Manner of Shop Utensils, a great Variety of Surgeons Instruments, Books of Physick, Anatomy and Surgery. Any Person or Persons that are inclinable to purchase the Contents, shall have them on reasonable Terms, and Twelve Months Credit, giving good Security. The Purchaser may have a convenient House and Shop, where it is now kept, at a reasonable yearly Rent.

The Subscriber has Two good convenient Dwelling-Houses on the same Lot, with Gardens, Stable, &c. to be Rented or Sold on reasonable Terms.

N. B. All Persons that have any just Demands against the Subscriber are desired to bring in their Accounts, to receive Satisfaction for the same, and all Persons indebted to him are desired to pay the same before the first Day of *May* next, to prevent further Trouble.

William Lynn.

WHEREAS His Majesty's Ship *Triton*, under my Command, will be ready for the Sea the Beginning of *March* next, and will be in want of a Pilot for the Coast of *Virginia*; this is to give Notice, to any Person that is capable of that Charge, and can bring Certificates of his Qualifications, that he may hear further by applying to

Matthew Whitwell.

To be SOLD,

BETWEEN Six and Seven Thousand Acres of choice Lands, in several Tracts, lying in the Counties of *Lunenburg* and *Amelia*. The Terms may be known of

Appamattox, *Jan.* 25, 1750. *George Currie*.

Norfolk, *Jan.* 19, 1750-1.

RAN away from the Subscriber, living in *Norfolk* Borough, about a Month ago, a Servant Man, named *Samuel Hoggart*, about 19 Years of Age, and about 5 Feet 5 Inches high, of a ruddy Complection; had on when he went away, a blue Coat, red Breeches, and a brown Wig; he is a Taylor by Trade. Whoever apprehends and conveys the said Servant to me, shall have a Pistole Reward, besides what the Law allows, paid by

Thomas Wilson.

Tappahanock, *Jan.* 23, 1750-1.

TO be SOLD, to the highest Bidder, on the first Day of *March* next, the Lots, Dwelling-houses, and Store-house, at present in the Possession of the Subscriber, in *Tappahanock* Town. Twelve Months Credit will be allowed, the Purchaser giving good Security, as usual, to

James Gray.

N. B. Any Person inclinable for a private Purchase, or that want to view the Houses, may apply to the Subscriber, any Time between this and the Sale.

3 ‖ *James Gray*.

STOLEN or stray'd out of the Subscriber's Lot, in *Williamsburg*, about the Middle of *November* last, a dark Bay Horse, or rather inclinable to a Black, 14 Hands high, branded TR in a Piece, his off Eye Blue, as if blind, but can see very well; he is a Natural Pacer and paces very fast. Whoever brings him to me, shall have a Pistole Reward.

James Bird.

ON the first *Wednesday* in *March* next will be SOLD, at Auction, for *Sterling* Money, the *Printing-Office*, Out-houses, and Lot, lately belonging to Mr. *William Parks*, deceas'd, in *Duke of Gloucester* Street, in *Williamsburg*. Possession to be delivered about the Middle of *June* next.
2

THIS is to give Notice to all Gentlemen and Ladies, That on the 20th and the 22d Instant, I intend to have an Assembly at my Dwelling-House, in *Norfolk* Town. Where all Gentlemen and Ladies, who will favour me with their good Company, may depend on kind Entertainment. Tickets to be had as usual, from

Their most humble Servant,

Edward Dial.

York, *Jan.* 28, 1750-1.

I HEREBY give Notice, That Mr. *Robert Crickton*, late of *Williamsburg*, Merchant, hath impowered me to collect his Debts, and assigned his Books and Debts to me, as well those in his own Name as in the Names of *Crickton* and *Scrivener*.

I therefore desire all Persons concerned will speedily come and settle with me, or with Mr. *John Palmer*, my Attorney, in *Williamsburg*: And I do forewarn the said *Crickton*'s Debtors from paying their Debts to any of his Creditors, on Peril of paying them over again, to

William Montgomery.

TO be SOLD, on the last *Tuesday* in *February*, the personal Estate of Col. *Benjamin Edwards*, deceas'd, at his late Dwelling-house, in *Surry* County, consisting of Horses, Cattle, Hogs, Sheep, Houshold Furniture, &c. Likewise on the *Tuesday* following will be Sold, at his Plantations in *Southampton*, known by the Names of *Round-Hill* and *Indian*-Town, Stock of all Sorts, Materials for Cropping, with some Furniture. Six Months Credit will be given, the Purchaser giving Bond, as usual.

Henry Browne, Administrator.

All Persons who are indebted, or have Demands against the said Estate, are desired to come and settle.
H. B.

TO be SOLD, on *Friday* the 15th of *February*, a Lot in *Newcastle* Town, with a good Dwelling-house thereon, with three Fire Places in it, a Kitchen with a Brick Chimney, a Stable, Smoak-house, Dairy, and pailed Garden; besides another House on the same Lot 12 Feet square, plank'd above and below, a Draw-well bored and bricked. Six Months Credit will be allowed, the Purchaser giving Bond and Security, as usual, to the Proprietor,

Farquhar Mathison.

RAN away from the Subscriber, in *James-City* County, the 20th Day of *December*, a young Man, named *Philip Jones*, about 22 Years of Age: Had on a dark grey Kersey Coat, black Cloth Waistcoat, a Silk Cap, and black-ribb'd Stockings. Whoever brings him to me shall have a Pistole Reward, besides what the Law allows.

Emery Hughes.

N. B. It is suppos'd he is gone towards *Brunswick*.

TO be SOLD, the House and Land whereon Col. *John Martin* lately liv'd, in *Caroline* County, containing about 2700 Acres. Any Person inclinable to purchase, may apply do the Subscribers, in *King William* County.
t. f.

John Martin,
Samuel Martin.

N. B. There are Plantations, &c. on the Land.

January 24, 1750-1.

STRAY'D away from *York* Town, the Beginning of this Month, two middle-siz'd young black Horses, without Brands, suppos'd to be gone towards *Hanover*, where they were bred. Whoever will bring the said Horses to me, in *York* Town, shall receive Half a Pistole Reward.

William Lightfoot.

ALL Persons who have any Demands against the Estates of *James* and *Elizabeth Barbar*, late of *York* County, deceas'd, are desired to bring in their Accounts, immediately, in order to receive Satisfaction for the same; and those who are indebted to either of the said Estates are likewise desired to settle the same, as soon as possible, which will prevent the further Trouble of, and their being sued by

Edward Bowcock, Administrator.

STOLEN or stray'd from the College Pasture, the 10th of *December* last, a light Bay Horse, with a thin black Mane and bob Tail, a Saddle-spot on the left Side, and no Brand; he was bred at *Taliaferro*'s Mount. Whoever brings him to the Subscriber, at the College, shall have a Pistole Reward.

Richard Graham.

PURSUANT to an Order of the Court of *Henrico*, The building of a Court-House for the said County, in the Town of *Richmond*, is to be agreed for, on *Tuesday* the 5th of *February* next. Any Persons who incline to undertake the same, are desired to meet at the House of *Abraham Cowley*, in the said Town.

STRAY'D from *Hanover* Court-House, on *Saturday* the 8th of *September* last, a dark Bay Horse, with a Mixture of grey Hairs, branded on the near Buttock H. He has a remarkable white Spot just below the Brand, another on the left Side of his Neck, one of his hind Feet is white, has a Blaze in his Face, paces rough, and was bred in *Surry* County. Whoever brings him to Mr. *John Shelton* at *Hanover* Court-House, Mr. *Cooper* at *New-Kent* Court-House, Mr. *Abraham Cowley* at the Falls of *James* River, or to me in *Williamsburg*, shall have a Pistole Reward.

William Hunter.

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For the Year of our Lord 1751,

TO be SOLD, at the *Printing-Office*, in *Williamsburg*. Price 5*s.* *per* Dozen, or 7½ *d.* each.

10

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